



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KATIE BAKER

Thursday, May 12, 2016
207-622-6233

1125

kbaker@mainedems.org

CONTACT:

Office:

Cell: 740-485-

Email:

MDP Calls on Maine Republicans to Denounce Trump

AUGUSTA, Maine - As Donald Trump today meets with U.S. Speaker of the House Paul Ryan in an attempt to create a "[façade of unity](#)" with the Republican Party, Maine Democratic Party Chairman Phil Bartlett called for the state's top Republicans to denounce Trump's bid for the presidency.

"With a temperament similar to that of Gov. Paul LePage, Donald Trump cannot be trusted to serve as the commander-in-chief of our armed forces," said Chairman Bartlett. "We need a leader who will unite, rather than divide us with vitriolic rhetoric that alienates women and minorities. I call upon Sen. Susan Collins and Congressman Bruce Poliquin to join Republican leaders such as [Gov. Mitt Romney and Sen. John McCain](#) in clearly, unequivocally denouncing Donald Trump's presidential campaign."

Reuters [reported yesterday](#) that Sen. Collins said she had not "foreclosed the possibility of eventually supporting" Trump, and in an [opinion column published this week](#) in the *Portland Press Herald*, Alan Caron asked whether Sen. Collins could "find the kind of courage that Margaret Chase Smith displayed when challenging Joseph McCarthy?"

In March, when asked by a reporter whether he would appear with Trump in Maine, Congressman Poliquin allowed “[an uncomfortable pause](#)” to hang in the air as he waited for an elevator.

In a [Facebook post yesterday](#), Gov. Romney, the 2012 Republican presidential nominee, called Trump’s refusal to release his tax returns “disqualifying.”

###